

REMARKS

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 11, 21, 31, 41 and 51 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Zenke in view of De Smet. The claims have been amended to recite a second remote station that has an arbitrator and can access a robot independently of a first remote station. Zenke does not disclose a system with this limitation. Zenke discloses a robot that is controlled by a second operation terminal 20. The Zenke system further has a diagnostic terminal 10. As shown in Figure 2 of Zenke, the first operation terminal is connected to the second operation terminal by communication line 40. The first operation terminal of the Zenke system cannot access the robot independently of the second station 20. Consequently, Zenke does not disclose a second remote station that can access a robot independently of a first remote station as recited in the claims of the above entitled application. To establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness, the prior art references must collectively disclose each limitation recited in the claims. MPEP 2143(a). The combination of Zenke and De Smet do not disclose a robot system with a first remote station and a second remote station, wherein the second station can access the robot independently of the first remote station. Therefore, Zenke and De Smet do not create a *prima facie* case of obviousness.

Additionally, Zenke does not suggest a robot system wherein a robot can be accessed by two different stations. Zenke discloses a robotic system wherein diagnostic procedures can be performed on a robot remotely from a first terminal. There would be no reason to connect the first operation terminal directly to the robot because connection to the second terminal achieves the goal of providing diagnostics. Zenke discloses a diagnostic procedure wherein instructions, questions, etc. are provided at the second operation terminal. Directly connecting the first operation terminal to the robot would not allow for the display of these instructions, questions,

etc., at the second terminal for some at the robot site to review. Consequently, one skilled in the art would not be motivated to provide direct access from the first operation terminal to the robot in view of the teachings of Zenke. For all of the above reasons, the applicant submits that the claims are patentably distinct from the prior art.


The Examiner rejected claims 2-6, 8-10, 12-16, 18-20, 22-26, 28-30, 32-36, 38-40, 42-46, 48-50, 52-56 and 58-66 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Zenke in view of De Smet and further in view of Ben-Shachar. The applicant submits that these claims are allowable for being dependent upon allowable independent claims.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of rejections is requested. Allowance of claims 1-66 at an early date is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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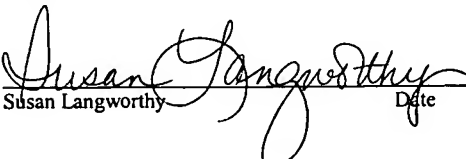
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 Jan 18, 2008
Susan Langworthy Date